

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 225 - HB 279**

March 4, 2013

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires the Board of Judicial Conduct, rather than the Board of Professional Responsibility, to investigate, hear, and rule on allegations of professional misconduct by district attorneys general.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$5,000**

**Assumptions:**

- The Board of Judicial Conduct is not trained on the Rules of Professional Conduct, but on the Code of Judicial Conduct. Further, under current law, the Board of Judicial Conduct does not have the authority to affect attorney licensure.
- Any disciplinary action the Board takes against a judge does not affect the judge's license to practice law. Any action the Board of Judicial Conduct believes should be taken against a district attorney general relative to his license to practice law would require concurrent action by the Board of Professional Responsibility.
- The bill would increase the caseload of the Board of Judicial Conduct, increase travel and expense claims, and require training for the board members. However, the impact cannot be reasonably determined because the Board of Professional Conduct does not have public statistics on the number of allegations against district attorneys general each year. It is assumed that the impact will exceed \$5,000.

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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